

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *PARALLAXIS* (HOMOPTERA: CICADELLIDAE) FROM CENTRAL AMERICA^{1,2}

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ABSTRACT: Two new species of *Parallaxis*, *P. maesi*, from Costa Rica and Nicaragua and *P. anisa* from Belize are described for the Central American region. Both species closely resemble *P. colorata* in color, but differ in the form of the male genitalia. The distribution of the five species now known for Mexico and Central America is given.

When the new world genus *Parallaxis* was reviewed by Linnavuori (1954), there were three species known from Central America. Two new species are now added, both of which seem closely related to *P. colorata* Linnavuori. The new species are quite easily distinguished from *P. colorata* on the basis of the male genitalia.

Parallaxis maesi, NEW SPECIES

(Figures 1-3)

External characters similar to *P. colorata*. Length of male 2.5 - 275 mm., female 2.75 - 3 mm.

Male genitalia: Pygofer (Fig. 3) shorter than genital plates, with posterior margin thickened, ventral margin with short nearly closed claw-like process. Genital plates triangular in ventral view, paddle-shaped in lateral view. Aedeagus (Figs. 1-2) slender with shaft gradually narrowing to apex, apex with two pair of fine nearly parallel processes curving ventrolaterally, one third length of shaft.

Holotype male: Costa Rica: Guanacaste, Estación Experimental Enrique Jimenez Nuñez, 25-IX-1992, Frank Parker, blacklight trap. Paratypes: one male, one female same data as holotype. Holotype and female paratype in the collection of the Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, Heredia, Costa Rica, and male paratype in the University of Kentucky Collection.

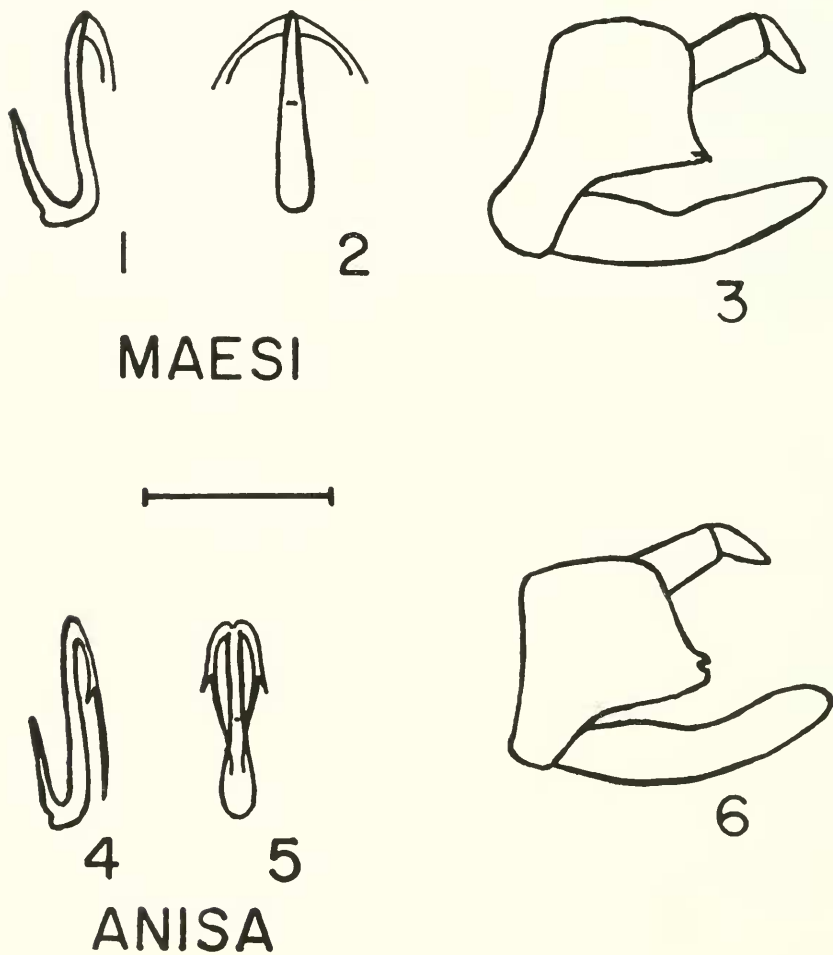
Other specimens examined: Four males, three females, Nicaragua: Masaya, Las Flores, 1-VII-1994, malaise trap, J. M. Maes; one female same data except 1-VIII-1994; one female, same data except 30-VIII-1994; six males, two females, same data except 8-VII-1994; three males, same data except 18-VII-1994; one male, same data except 7-IX-1994; two males, two females, Chinandega, Villa Nueva, 30-X-1989, uv light, S. Valle. Deposited in the Museo Entomológico, León, Nicaragua and two males, two females in the University of Kentucky Collection.

Etymology: this species is named for J. M. Maes who sent the Nicaraguan specimens to me for study.

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Figures 1-3 *Parallaxis maesi* new species, 4-6 *P. anisa* new species. Fig. 1 and 4 Lateral view of aedeagus. Fig. 2 and 5 Posterior view of aedeagus. Fig. 3 and 6 Lateral view of genital capsule. All drawn to the same scale. Scale equals 0.25 mm.

***Parallaxis anisa*, NEW SPECIES**

(Figures 4-6)

External characters similar to *P. colorata*. Length of male 2.5-2.75 mm., female 2.8-3 mm.

Male genitalia: Pygofer (Fig. 6) similar to *P. colorata*, except ventral margin longer than dorsal margin, and posteroventral claw-like process small. Genital plates longer than pygofer. Aedeagus (Figs. 4-5) with shaft nearly uniform width from small bulbous base, one pair of apical processes nearly same length as shaft, extending ventrally very close to shaft with short lateral spur at midlength.

Holotype male: Belize: Orange Walk Dist., Rio Bravo Cons. Area, Well trail near "Texas Camp", 10-18-VII-1996, P. W. Kovarik, yellow pan traps, Well trail transect. Paratypes: nine males, ten females same data as holotype. Holotype and one female paratype in the British Museum of Natural History, London, England; two male, two female paratypes in each of the following collections, Florida Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida, The California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California and The Ohio State University Collection, Columbus, Ohio; and the remainder in the University of Kentucky Collection.

Etymology: this species is named for its unequal aedeagal processes.

The known distribution of the species of *Parallaxis* for Mexico and Central America is now as follows:

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| 1. <i>P. anisa</i> Freytag, new species | Belize |
| 2. <i>P. colorata</i> Linnavuori 1954 | Costa Rica, Panama |
| 3. <i>P. donaldsoni</i> (Baker) 1903 (<i>Erythria</i>) | Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras,
Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama |
| 4. <i>P. guzmani</i> (Baker) 1903 (<i>Erythria</i>) | Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico,
Nicaragua, Panama |
| 5. <i>P. maesi</i> Freytag, new species | Costa Rica, Nicaragua |

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LITERATURE CITED

- Linnavuori, R.** 1954. Contributions to the Neotropical leafhopper fauna of the family Cicadellidae III. A revision of the genus *Parallaxis* McAtee. Suomen Hyönteistieteellinen Aikakauskirja 20 (4):153-164.